

Fourteen fish species are listed as threatened or endangered in Alabama. Most occur in north Alabama rivers and streams. The most significant danger to protected fish from forestry practices is sedimentation that smothers fish eggs and habitat. Pay particular attention to bridge and road construction that might lead to erosion. Leave wide buffer strips adjacent to streams when cutting timber on steep slopes. Avoid spraying pesticides near waterways. The best way to avoid negative impact on fish is to follow closely Alabama's Best Management Practices for Forestry. Below is a list of protected fish and the rivers and streams where they occur. Because many are small and not easily caught, they may also occur in additional streams. Species names followed by an asterisk (*) are endangered, all others are threatened.



SPECIES	RIVERS/CREEKS	COUNTIES
Pygmy Sculpin (<i>Cottus pygmaeus</i>)	Coldwater Creek, Coldwater Spring	Calhoun
Blue Shiner (<i>Cyprinella caerulea</i>)	Little River, Weogufka Creek, Choccolocco Creek	Calhoun, Dekalb, Cherokee, Coosa
Slackwater Darter (<i>Etheostoma boschungii</i>)	Cypress Creek and all tributaries, except Threat and Little Cypress Creeks; Swan Creek, Greenbrier Branch, Flint River	Lauderdale, Coosa Limestone, Madison
Watercress Darter * <i>Etheostoma nuchale</i>	Glenn Springs, Thomas, Roebuck & Tapawingo Springs and their spring runs	Jefferson
Alabama Sturgeon * <i>scaphirhynchus suttkusi</i>	Alabama River	Baldwin, Clarke, Monroe, Wilcox
Alabama Cavefish * <i>speoplatyrhinus</i>	Key Cave	Lauderdale
Spotfin Chub <i>Cyprinella monacha</i>	Shoal Creek, Little Bear Creek	Colbert, Lauderdale

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Vermilion Darter * <i>Etheostoma chermocki</i>	Turkey Creek and the lower reaches of Dry and Beaver Creek in the watershed of the Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River	Jefferson
Boulder Darter * <i>Etheostoma wapiti</i>	Elk River	Limestone
Cahaba Shiner * <i>Notropis cahabae</i>	Cahaba River	Bibb, Blount, Perry, Jefferson, Shelby
Palezone Shiner * <i>Notropis procne</i>	Paint Rock River	Jackson
Goldline Darter <i>Percina aurolineata</i>)	Cahaba and Little Cahaba Rivers and Schultz Creek	Bibb, Shelby
Snail Darter <i>Percina tanasi</i>	Paint Rock River	Madison, Marshall, Lauderdale
Gulf Sturgeon <i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	Mobile River, Alabama River below Claiborne Dam, Tombigbee River below Coffeeville Dam, Conecuh River below Point "A", Yellow River	Baldwin, Choctaw, Coffee, Clarke, Covington, Wilcox, Escambia, Geneva, Mobile, Monroe, Washington

Photo and Text Credit: Threatened and Endangered Species of Alabama: A Guide to Assist with Forestry Activities, Second Edition, USFS



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